

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

OCT 1 3 2006

Mr. Mitchell Cypress, Chairman Seminole Tribe of Florida 6300 Stirling Road Hollywood, Florida 33024

Dear Mr. Cypress:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its review of the revisions to Chapter B of the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Rules - Water Quality Protection and Restoration: Rules to Carry Out the Federal Clean Water Act and the Tribal Water Code submitted by Mr. Craig D. Tepper's letter, dated June 1, 2006. The revisions contained in Part 11, General Provisions, and Part 12, Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters, were adopted by the Seminole Tribal Council on March 2, 2005, and certified as duly adopted pursuant to applicable Tribal law by Mr. Jim Shore, General Counsel, on August 17, 2006. The revisions will become effective for Clean Water Act (CWA) purposes upon approval by EPA.

The triennial review revisions included 1) a change in the effective date for any new or revised water quality standards provisions used for CWA purposes, 2) deletion of the "note" in the definition of water resource area relating to the listing of waters designated as Water Resource Areas in Section 12.2(b)(3) of the standards, 3) the clarification of the description of Sub Class 2-C waters, and 4) updates of water quality criteria for ammonia and total arsenic. EPA approves these revisions for all purposes of the CWA pursuant to the Agency's authority under Section 303(c) of CWA and its implementing regulations at 40 CFR Part 131.

EPA's decision to approve the revised Tribal standards is subject to the results of the national consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. By approving the standards "subject to the results of the national consultation," EPA retains its discretion to take appropriate action if the consultation identifies deficiencies in the standards requiring remedial action by EPA. EPA will notify the Tribe if remedial action is required.

We would like to commend you and your staff for your long-standing efforts to protect and enhance the waters of South Florida, and encourage you to continue to develop your water quality standards program. If you have any questions regarding EPA's action or need other assistance, please contact me at (404) 562-9470 or have a member of your staff contact Eve Zimmerman at (404) 562-9259.

Sincerely

James D. Giattina, Director Water Management Division

cc: Craig D. Tepper, Seminole Tribe Cherise Maples, Seminole Tribe